



LARC



Volume 48, Number 9

September 2008

LOUISIANA CONTEST CLUB - FORMALLY ORGANIZED

Leesville, LA, Saturday, August 9, 2008

The Louisiana Contest Club was formally organized at the Leesville, LA hamfest. Present at the organizational meeting and signing of the club constitution and by-laws were the charter members Charlie Morrison, KI5XP; Roland Guidry, NA5Q; Pat Sonnier, W5WMU; Mark Ketchell, K5ER; and Scott Dickson, W5WZ. Also present were Louisiana Section Manager Gary Stratton K5GLS; and Louisiana Affiliated Club Coordinator Jim Bookner, N5NVP.

The Louisiana Contest Club is a special purpose amateur radio club devoted to the pursuit of operating and technical excellence. Our goals are simple:

- * To promote the fun, satisfaction and competitive thrill of radio contesting
- * To assist our members in the development of their operating and technical skills
- * To foster increased friendly competition and sportsmanship
- * To become a competitive force in club competition of amateur radio contests

The newly elected officers are: President- Mark Ketchell K5ER; Vice-President- Charlie Morrison KI5XP; Secretary/Treasurer- Scott Dickson W5WZ; Director- Pat Sonnier W5WMU; and Director- Roland Guidry NA5Q.

The idea of organizing a contest club originated at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention in the contest super suite over pizza. The original founders of LCC felt that an organization was needed in Louisiana to educate, promote and encourage contesting. Further, they recognized that Louisiana had never been represented by a statewide contest club. Among Louisiana hams, there are many recognized and skilled Amateur Radio operators, some who have won many national and world contesting awards. Through the LCC, we will provide a vehicle for its membership to further develop contesting skills and strategies, while allowing members to share collective knowledge and experience through mentoring.



Charlie KI5XP, Mark K5ER, Roland NA5Q, Scott W5WZ



ARRL Louisiana Section Officials and Louisiana Contest Club Officials announce a new ARRL Affiliated Club in Louisiana. Pictured from left to right are: Jim Bookner, LA Section Affiliated Club Coordinator N5NVP; Roland, NA5Q; Mark, President K5ER; Scott, Secretary/Treasury W5WZ; Charlie, Vice President KI5XP; and Gary Stratton, LA Section Manager K5GLS.

The LCC has chosen to mark the center of its circle near Marksville, LA at coordinates N31.226894 Latitude and W91.944580 Longitude. Consequently, the entire populated area of Louisiana, along with much of southwestern west-central Mississippi, and also southeastern Texas fall within the 175-mile radius circle limit imposed by many contest rules.

(continued on page 2 column 2)

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday September 4th @ 7:00 PM
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
 VE Testing @ 6:00 PM - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

SLARC Swampfest, Lake Charles, LA
 September 13th, 2008

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA
 Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
 YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP
ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

John Martin KA5BSE

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

Glenn Breaux KD5NVC

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

Newsletter Editor

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174
 Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of
 each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
 American Red Cross Building
 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Louisiana Contesting Club

(continued from page 1)

All persons interested in amateur radio contesting shall be eligible to submit an application for membership. Membership shall be by application and dues payment of \$20 annually.

LCC website:

<http://www.LouisianaContestClub.org>

or contact us by e-mail:

As our mascot Chomps Boo-TAY states:
 "Laissez Lez Contest Roulez!" (Let the Contest Roll!)



ARRL MEMBERS

In the later part of September or the early part of October, ARRL members will be receiving a ballot in the mail for the election for Delta Division Director.

The deadline for nominations is August 31st, so at the time I am writing this newsletter, I cannot say who they are but their names will be on the ballot.

Please take time to check out those running for this ARRL position, make your decision and return your ballot to the ARRL. The deadline for voting is sometime in November.

Kermit J. Cormier - AE5AJ - SK

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 23, 2008, at St. Michael Catholic Church in Crowley, for Kermit Joseph Cormier. Mr. Cormier died Monday evening August 18th in Lafayette.

Mr. Cormier was a native of Crowley and a resident of Lafayette. He was a firm believer in the value of education, and a graduate of St. Michael Elementary and St. Michael (now Notre Dame) High Schools, both in Crowley. In addition, he graduated from LSU with a B.S. in Industrial Technology. He also held numerous certifications from various technical schools and was Microsoft certified. He was employed as a mud engineer at Newpark Drilling Fluids in Lafayette. His hobbies included ham radio and remote control planes. He belonged to the Acadiana RC Club. He was also extremely proud of the fact that he performed much of the construction of his own home assisted by his mother.

He is survived by his wife, Alice Hensel Cormier, of Lafayette; a son Christopher Cormier, also of Lafayette; his mother, Mable Dies Cormier, of Crowley, and a brother, Herbert James Cormier, of Woodstock, Va.

Mr. Cormier was preceded in death by his father, Willie Joseph Cormier.

If you were at the August 7th AARA General Meeting, you may have met Kermit at the meeting. Kermit paid his membership dues and became a part of the AARA. He will be GREATLY missed. Please say a prayer for Kermit and his family.



Scouting and Ham Radio

On August 17, 2008, I worked a group of Boy Scouts on 20 meters at the Boy Scout Camp Woodruff in NW Georgia. I received a short article from them that I would like to pass on to our readers with permission from their leader, Curtis Waites AB5TT. Herman KN5GRK—LARC Editor

Herman, I would like to thank you for taking time to work with my Boy Scout operators! The merit badge program gives a boy the opportunity to explore hundreds of topics. For many of the boys, one or more of the badges they earn, will spur an interest which will one day become a career field or hobby. The Scoutmasters which came up to me after the third day, said that the boys were more excited about this badge than those of the shooting sports. I even had boys staying up as late as 11:00 pm just to make another contact. This level of excitement was possible, only because of you and other amateur radio operators who took time to talk to the group.

As you can see, I came as loaded for bear as possible. I wanted to give the boys the greatest opportunity to have success on the air because the window was small and the operating conditions, were marginal at best.

Many times, we as operators, set out to show the magic of radio with low power and wire antennas and what happens is the prospective new ham misses the fun. In this case, we had fun! Not only that, but they had the chance to experience and work ssb voice, cw, rtty and bpsk-31. By exploring these various modes, even the shy boys could relate and interact with others in a way that they felt comfortable with. Long and short is; that we had a great time and learned allot about radio at the same time.

I'm proud to have made contact with you Herman and I feel as though I have a club full of partners now who could be called upon in the future to make this hobby come alive for a young person.

Thanks for the interest and it would be great to have a copy of your news letter.

Operating conditions:

Transceiver: IC-737	Amplifier: Ameritron AL-811H
Tuner: MFJ Versa Tuner 5	Computer: Averatec Laptop
USB Interface: Rig Expert Standard	Antenna: Elevated Hustler 5 band vertical with 2 tuned radials per band (pictured)

73's
Curtis Waites
AB5TT



Curtis AB5TT holding cup on the right.

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA AMATEUR REPEATER CLUB SWAMPFEST

Date: September 13th, 2008

Location: Habibi Temple, Lake Charles, LA

Admission: \$5.00 with 5 tickets

Time: 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

Talk-in: 146.730 pl turned off

VE Testing: 10:00 am

Grand Prizes:

1st - Yaesu FT-450 HF Transceiver

2nd - Yaesu FT-7800 Dual Band Mobile

Tickets are \$1.00 each for Main Prizes (do not have to be present to win). Drawing at 2:00 pm

Door prize tickets: \$1.00 ea

Main Distributor: TBA

Setup Time: Friday 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm & Saturday 6:00 am to 8:00 am

Flea Market Tables: \$15.00 power drop add \$5.00

Refreshments:

Breakfast and Lunch on site, Gumbo and more.

Camper Space: \$15.00 per night

Directions: 1-10 either East or West bound, take exit 33 (Hwy 171 N.). Proceed North through 4 stop-lights (approx. 1.1 miles), take the right hand fork at the 4th light. Highway 171 veers off to the left and the road to **HABIBI** to the right. Follow the signs to the arch entrance to **HABIBI**. Swampfest will be in the small building with the entrance on the right side.

Contact:

SWLARC

P.O. Box 7224

Lake Charles, LA 70606

A t -



tention: Doug Phelps WB5OZA

LARC Editor's Message

At the time I am putting together this message, Hurricane Gustav is out in the Gulf heading our way and the outlook is not good. I ask that you say a prayer for all our neighbors along the Gulf Coast area and hope for the best.

Do not wait for the last minute to evacuate, pay attention to news reports, and heed all warnings. If you decide to stay, be sure that you are prepared to meet any situation that might arise. If you can be of service to any of the emergency facilities, do not hesitate to volunteer, but only if you can be assured that your family is safe. Power may be down for a unknown duration.

The Lafayette EOC will be in operation during this time to handle emergency and health/welfare traffic. Many of the medical facilities will be using their VHF radios for the first time during emergencies, many of the operators will be a little nervous so please bear with them.

Due to the weather conditions, our monthly AARA General Meeting for Thursday September 4th may be cancelled. Watch for updates.

Herman Campbell - KN5GRK
Editor

OAARC Garage Sale

The Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club's garage sale is at Glenn KD5NVC and Linda KE5HSX Breaux's house at 125 Galbert Rd, Lafayette, LA. 70506, phone is 337-235-3797.

This is on Saturday September 6, 2008 from 0700 to 1200 noon. This event is to raise money to relocate the W5OPL repeater antenna to the KLFY tower.

Any donations would be appreciated along with some help on the day of the sale. Arrangements can be made to drop off any items on Friday afternoon.

Contact Katie at 337-849-4546 or Linda at 337-235-3797

September 2008 Special Events & Contests

Sept. 4-8	W1H - Promoting Amateur Radio and ARES. Hebron, CT.
Sept. 6	W8C - 120 th Anniversary of the Circus Train Wreck in Corwin. Corwin, OH.
Sept. 12-14	W9IMS - Inaugural running of the Indianapolis MotoGP. Indianapolis, IN.
Sept. 13	NI6IW - USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, National POW-MIA Recognition Day. San Diego, CA.
Sept. 13	K5R - 3 rd Anniversaries of Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Hammond, LA.
Sept. 20-26	Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Clubs. 75th Anniversary of Collins Radio. Collect 4 or more QSLs from 4 different facilities for a special certificate. Mail to W0CXX. QSL cards returned. <i>Cedar Rapids, IO—N0CXX, Melbourne, FL—W4CRC, Toulouse, France—F6KNZ, Tustin, CA—W6CXX, Cedar Rapids, IO—W0CXX</i> Check QST September 2008 page 89 and 90 for more info or ARRL website.



9/7	JOHN	KA5BSE
9/13	FRED	W5MLE
9/16	D.J.	N5HVY
9/19	MEL	WD5CAE
9/20	DANNY	K5ARH
9/24	IRMA	KE5UPK
9/26	BARBARA	W5BCF
10/1	CHERYL	KE5IBM
10/2	BRANDON	
10/4	GREG	K5LFT
10/6	SHANNON	KE5CKT



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kermit J. Cormier - AE5AJ - SK
Trey Oliver - KE5VYO
Bob Gordon - no call at this time

If you are interested in joining the AARA, you can go to our website at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/>

Just click on "Membership Application", download the .PDF file, fill it out along with the proper fees and mail it in.

HELP KEEP AMATEUR RADIO ALIVE IN ACADIANA!



A RESPONSE TO THE EULOGIES FOR HAM RADIO

This fine message comes from Don Mehl, W5BB:

When I received my amateur radio license in June 1940, I was told that "Amateur Radio was dead" because the radio pioneers in the 1920's and 1930's had developed and discovered everything in radio and now it was in the hands of commercial radio manufacturers. There wasn't much more that Amateur Radio could contribute they said.

The 50,000 amateur radio operators at the time formed the nucleus for the desperately needed communications required in World War 2. About two-thirds went on active duty and the rest worked on the home front in manufacturing and training.

After the war Amateur Radio operators returned to develop civil emergency communications, operating techniques and advance the VHF, UHF, and SHF equipment and propagation technologies. Wartime communication experiences motivated many to obtain advanced degrees using the GI Bill Of Rights educational benefits and then used this education to develop the advanced high tech electronics of today.

NOTICE

At the present time it is not sure if there will be a General Meeting of the AARA scheduled for Thursday September 4th due to Hurricane Gustav hitting our area. Please check in on local nets or check your e-mail for updates.

HEAL NET

Be sure to check in on the HEAL NET every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 PM local time on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette. Larry KE5KJD is our Net Control Station at this time but will appreciate anyone wising to help out as NCS on occasions.

August 2008 HEAL Net Re-

DATE:	Medical Personnel	Guest	Medical Facilities	Time / Traffic
8/01/08	3	8	3	9 min/ 0
8/15/08	6	7	6	16 min/0

Today's Amateur Radio operators have pushed radio communications into advanced digital modes. Such technology, first developed for Amateur Radio, has often been incorporated into commercial technologies and applications.

I have seen this happening during my 68 years in Amateur Radio and commercial electronics and communications.

What will happen in the future our imagination cannot foresee. But what I am sure of is that there will be a place for Amateur Radio enthusiasts in the future of electronics and communications.

Don Mehl, W5BB

<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

And, just who is Don Mehl, W5BB? Don is the author of a couple of extremely interesting books on crypto-logical and digital communications in WWII.

Reprinted from the ARRL "Contact" Vol. 6, No. 8, August 2008

August 2008 VE Test Session Results

These are the results of the August 2008 VE test session at the General Meeting. We did not have a July test session due to cancellation of the July General Meeting.

William J. Oliver III from Basile, LA passed Technician license and received the call KE5VYO.

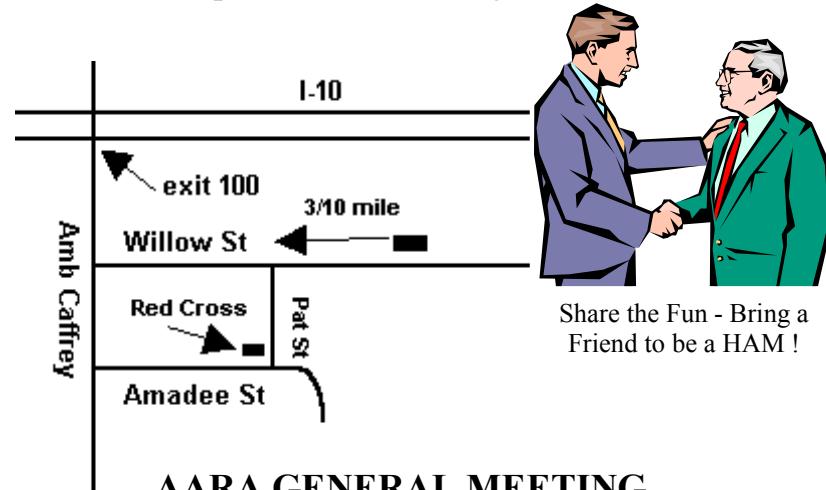
Matthew R. Barouse from Lafayette, LA passed Technician. Can not find a listing in FCC database.

The VE team was large at this session.

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Albert Fabacher KE5WP, Charles Morrison KI5XP, Roland Guidry NA5Q, Rick Breaux N5RLM & Archibald Hill W5AG

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday September 4th, 2008—7:00 PM
(see inside)
VE Testing at 6:00 PM
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA
Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE**

PEACH & BLUEBERRY COBBLER

(submitted by Phoebe Gaudet KC5VRN)

Filling:

1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 cup water
1 cup blueberries
3 cups sliced peaches

Topping:

1 cup flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup milk
1/4 cup margarine, melted
2 tablespoons sugar
1/4 teaspoons ground nutmeg

To make filling, mix sugar and cornstarch, stir in water, and cook until thick, stirring constantly. Remove from heat; add fruit and mix. Turn into a greased 2-quart baking dish.

In a mixing bowl, sift together dry ingredients for topping. Add milk and margarine and mix until smooth. Spoon over fruit. Combine sugar and nutmeg and sprinkle over topping. Bake at 375° F. for 45 minutes.

LSU AgCenter

Send your favorite recipe to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245